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MARK YOUR CALENDAR! Annual General Meeting – October 1-3, 1993 Newark (New Jersey) Airport Marriott

With a hotel just a stone's throw away from one of the country's largest airports (and a hop, skip and a jump from the Big Apple) ... and very attractive hotel rates locked in a year in advance

Plus a round dozen workshops lined up, three or four kinds of entertainment on tap, a special fund-raising event for the Schallek Fund, surprise visits from some of our old friends (rumor has it that Tarlton the Fool and Will Fletcher will both be there), a keynote address and other activities planned around a unifying theme, "Richard III — A Man of His Time," the Whyte Rose Chapter (New Jersey and more) is determined that this year's Annual General Meeting will definitely be one you won't want to miss. Workshops on the docket include illuminated manuscripts; the medieval horse; Middleham castle; the de la Poles; Mancini in manuscript; the Society in scholarship; the basics of foolery, and more.

A special treat at the AGM will be the premiere of "Richard III — His Story," an exhibition adapted from the "To Prove a Villain" exhibit currently on display at Warwick Castle. Credit for this ambitious project goes to Joe Ann and Michael Ricca, Susan Mahoney, Margaret Gurowitz, Michael Ressetar, all from New Jersey, and Sheila Ward, from Nottinghamshire.

Another first for this AGM is the special Sunday morning Schallek Breakfast, the American Branch's first AGM-based fund-raising event. Proceeds from this breakfast will help build the endowment fund that supports our graduate scholarship. Dartmouth Professor Charles T. Wood, member of the Schallek Advisory Board since its founding, will be our guest speaker.

Finally, as you're starting to make your AGM plans, be sure to include extra days to enjoy the delights, both medieval and modern, that New York City has to offer. Schedule yourself at least half a day to tour The Cloisters, the special medieval collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, housed in a building overlooking the scenic Hudson River Valley that evokes the timeless serenity of a romanesque monastery. Or plan a tour of the Pierpont Morgan Library, whose treasures include several manuscripts of interest to Ricardians. See the Wycliffite *New Testament*, bearing Richard's signature, at the New York Public Library.

Don't think the Whyte Rose chapter has the entire AGM sewed up yet, though. "We're always on the lookout for more entertainment, and more workshops, so don't hesitate to volunteer," urges Joe Ann Ricca, who suggests you contact her if you'd like to make an AGM contribution.

IN THIS ISSUE

From The Chair, Joe Ann Ricca	4
The King's Touch, M. Christine Hurlbut	5
More Than Our Money's Worth, Laura V. Blanchard	10
1993 Ricardian Tour	14
Ricardian Post	16
Schallek Fund Continues to Grow	17
Committee Appointments	18
Scattered Standards	19
News From the Fiction Library, Mary Miller	20
Ricardian Reading, Myrna Smith	21
A Surge In Schallek Giving, Laura Blanchard	23
Concord In Chaos, Anne Elaine Bliss	25
Board Chronicles	26
Under The Hog	27
Committee Appointments: Research Officer	27
Games Ricardians Play, Jane Winther	28
Membership Application	28

FROM THE CHAIR

Joe Ann Ricca

If the key to the success of an organization can be measured by the volunteerism given by its members then, as 1993 unfolds, we are continuing to build upon the impressive successes that we have achieved in the past. Our achievements can be measured by every aspect of the society — from the members who chair our chapters, to the committee heads who provide sources of information and assistance to our members, to the board who always seem to rise to the occasion. I applaud you all. However selfish as it may seem to ask, can we do better? I believe so. The road to our continued success can only be paved with the ideas and suggestions we hear from our members. Let us continue to pave the road of 1993 with achievements that will far surpass our expectations.

An area that is bearing the fruits of its, or in this case, her, labor is the Schallek Endowment Campaign. Laura has always been a supporter of the Schallek area and has attacked this responsibility with zeal. She has done, and is continuing to do a tremendous job. Keep up the good work, Laura. To all of the members of the society who have been supporting this campaign, our deepest appreciation for your generosity.

One area that merits our attention is our chapters. The chapters in the Society strongly contribute to its success in many ways, and yet we sometimes forget to turn our attention on them.

In our chapters, we have the opportunity to socialize, explore and learn of an era long past. Chapter members are always on the lookout for that one skeptical person they can convert to Richard's side of the story. Members will always be challenged to respond to the questions of "What do you do in the society?" Our response can very well be "How much time do you have?" to "Why is there a society for Richard III?" Our answers always seem diverse and yet the bottom line is very simple — *truth matters*. Members shine via their chapters by showcasing their talents either academically or in the social graces of the fifteenth century. The chapter chairs wear many hats and face the trials and tribulations of running a chapter. They must meet the challenge of providing meetings that will offer originality and entertainment and yet they always rise to the occasion. And, let us not forget their willingness to host AGM's. With each passing year our AGM's are getting better, and this is totally due to the hard work and dedication of members.

If you are in the area of a chapter, and haven't joined one yet, check the *Register* for the nearest chapter and contact person. Don't be left out in the cold. If you don't have a chapter, why not start one? All it takes is three members. If you need some guidelines or have any questions, contact Janet Sweet, our Chapter Coordinator. Janet has put together a wonderful chapter starter kit.

I would like to mention some of the activities that our chapters are enjoying:

The Mid-Atlantic Chapter is providing culinary tastes into the fifteenth century by hosting a pot lunch medieval dinner. Most of the recipes sampled will be provided by the talent of the members of the chapter. The dinner will also boast raffle prizes and a Madrigal group.

If public speaking is your niche, then Southeastern PA. member, Wendy Logan, will be the keynote speaker at the next speaking engagement of the "Romance Writers of America". Wendy's speech will focus on Richard — Fact and Fiction.

The Ohio Chapter is no stranger to hosting public events. Each year they hold a booth at the RenFest, and according to their chapter chair, Tom Cole, they will be partaking in the event again this year.

The Michigan Chapter members would rather focus on the happier times and events in Richard's life by holding an annual dinner to commemorate Richard's Coronation Day. Several members are also planning on attending a very exciting session at the Medieval Congress.

The New England Chapter members received a tour of a Gothic Church. In April, they will be viewing a slide show on the medieval treasures of the Cloisters in New York.

To these chapters, and the others that I have not mentioned, keep up the good work!

Our individual members have not been idle. Since our last issue, we have filled a few positions with some new and old faces.

Dale Summers of the Southwest Chapter has been appointed Tour Coordinator. Dale has the task of answering inquiries from our members on tours, receiving tour proposals and submitting recommendations to the board. For the 1993 tour, there are many surprises that have been planned to make this tour memorable.

Mary Donermeyer of the New England Chapter has taken over the position of Archivist. Bob Cook did a marvelous job and we thank him for all the hard work put into organizing our archive records. Mary hopes to bring some of the archive records to the '93 AGM so members can see firsthand some of the American Branch's history and the interesting articles that we have gathered over the years.

Margaret Gurowitz, Susan Mahoney, Michael Ressetar and Michael T. Ricca of the Whyte Rose (formerly N.J.) Chapter have taken on the mammoth task of constructing an exhibit that the society and other chapters may utilize for either library exhibits, school presentations or speaking engagements. This exhibit will be on display at the '93 AGM.

Last but not least, we are searching to fill the position of Advertising Manager. If interested in the position, you may either call or write me on the particulars.

THE KING'S TOUCH

M. Christine Hurlbut

[Editor's Note: This article is reprinted from the January, 1992 issue of *RIII*, The Journal of the Richard III Society of Canada]

As Toronto Branch members know, I enjoy doing papers on social history, and this topic is no exception! I came across Marc Bloch's book *The Royal Touch: Sacred Monarchy and Scrofula in England and France* last winter while I was looking for something else at the library, and was so intrigued I signed it out and leafed through it, fascinated by the "forgotten" healing rituals once associated with monarchy. The topic cried out for further investigation, even though we know little of Richard III's own involvement with healing or blessing the sick. Needless to say, when Henry VII ascended the throne, he practiced these ancient rites to reinforce his "divine" status!

Why would a king voluntarily wish to come into contact with, let alone lay hands on, his Great Unwashed subjects? The answer lies in the belief medieval society held of the king's ability to heal; that simply by *touching* an affected person, he could cure scrofula. (There was considerable debate about whether a mere woman could be a vehicle for this sort of healing!) As anointed monarchs, kings were heads of state and leaders in warfare, and therefore on the highest social plane, a position imbued with near-magic properties. Imagine the positive "press" the monarch could gain by healing the sick! Such a dramatic and inexpensive public-relations gesture gave relief and happiness to the poor and afflicted while reinforcing the mystique of his kingship.

The concept of "king-as-healer" is a recurring historical theme. In his landmark *Golden Bough*, Sir James Frazer examined the role of rulers in what we might conveniently call "primitive" society, and found that kings or chiefs were believed to possess magical or supernatural powers to fertilize the earth, encourage crops to grow, control the weather or heal specific illnesses. This concept was so ingrained that a simple equation developed: the rule of a good king would bring peace and plenty to the land; when crops failed or a natural disaster occurred, the "flawed" ruler could be blamed and deposed, sometimes paying for adverse happenings with his life.

From Egypt to Peru, India to Scandinavia and China to Greece, there were precedents for monarchs to use their status to claim special powers and abilities. For English kings to display their "magic" in this spectacular fashion was not remarkable, though they cannot be accused of intentionally imitating their long-dead counterparts. Indeed, it is not surprising to read Frazer's statement: "In the House of Commons under Elizabeth I, it was openly

asserted 'that absolute princes, such as the sovereigns of England, were a species of divinity.' [A typically Tudor claim!] (*New Golden Bough*, p. 69)

The Healing Touch for Scrofula

Although we use the term in a different sense in this century, to the medieval physician *scrofula* was a generalized inflammation of lymph nodes in the neck or groin; a form of swollen glands. We now know this was caused by tuberculosis bacteria, and the resulting sores distended the face and neck, often turning into putrid, running wounds. A physician of my acquaintance added that many people could be expected to suffer from some type of this tubercular adenitis, because the germs were commonly found in unpasteurized milk. Dairy workers were frequently infected since they worked directly with affected herds and contracted the disease by inhaling germs, as well as through drinking milk. Improper and inadequate food storage and sanitation practices allowed the disease to spread rapidly (though rarely fatally) through the country.

Scrofulous inflammations could come and go for a number of years and might finally turn into the classic tubercular illness of the respiratory tract. In the interval, the sufferer could succumb to a dozen other diseases and never exhibit any more troublesome symptoms than temporary face and neck deformities.

The early 12th century French monk Guibert reported on the way scrofula was healed at the court of Louis VI (1108-1137):

But what am I saying? Have we not seen our Lord King Louis performing a customary marvel? With my own eyes I have seen people suffering from scrofula on the neck or other parts of the body crowd round the king in order to be touched by him—and to his touch he added also the sign of the cross. (Bloch, p.13)

One of the earliest English attributions of the ability to heal is made to Edward the Confessor, and by about 1300, chroniclers recorded that all kings exhibited the power. The highly reliable dramatic historian William Shakespeare described Edward's power in *Macbeth*:

*... strangely visited people,
All sworn and ulcerous, pitiful to the eye,
The mere despair of surgery, he cures,
Hanging a golden stamp about their necks,
Put on with holy prayers; and 'tis spoken,
To the succeeding royalty he leaves
The healing benediction. (IV, iii)*

Another charming story of his healing ability is told by Bloch (p.24). A young woman suffering from obvious signs

of scrofula was told in a dream to seek healing from the king.

"The king sent for a vase of water, dipped his fingers in it, then touched the affected parts, signing them several times with the cross. Immediately blood and pus came out under the pressure of the royal hand, and the disease appeared to abate . . . after scarcely a week, the woman was overjoyed to find herself completely healed; and not only healed of this illness, but also of a stubborn sterility which was a great source of grief to her; and that same year she presented her husband with a son." If Edward could indeed perform such wondrous deeds, he should be revered along with the saints!

As described by Shakespeare, the king actually touched the afflicted person, often (as the ritual developed) adding the sign of the cross to symbolize and sanctify the rite of healing. "Thereby the king made it evident to all that he was exercising his miraculous power in the name of God." (Bloch, p.52). Over time, in both England and France (where ideas about healing developed in a more or less parallel fashion) the king began to add prayers. By the time of Henry VII or VIII, a fairly specific rite had developed, in which the English king was almost the "celebrant", assisted by a chaplain.

There are no recorded cases of a monarch contracting the disease through the healing ceremony, though the potential for infection was certainly present. So great was the king's curative power that the scrofulous eruptions gradually became known as "the King's evil", because the king was able to *cure*—not *cause*—the disease. Those who were brought into the royal presence were screened by physicians for the potential success of their cure, and as well as physical healing, the poor were given a fixed sum of money as part of the ceremony. Initially this was alms of a penny, equal to a day's wage for a labourer.

In both England and France, kings were able to heal by virtue of the anointing received at coronation, when they were blessed with holy oil on certain parts of the body (hands, head, chest and shoulders) in a deliberate echo of Old Testament custom. In this way the monarch became "the Lord's Anointed" in the same sense as priests and bishops who were set apart for their work. It is not clear in either country whether *any* king had the power to heal by virtue of consecration, or whether descent through an established line was more important. As the throne in England passed among rival houses, it became obvious to historians that while heredity enabled some monarchs to heal, others did so through their own virtues. Whether the records support the claims of one specific monarch over another depends on who was writing the account, and the circumstances inspired by patronage!

While chroniclers highlighted the healing activities of some English kings, in general the records are sporadic, incomplete and difficult to compare. Even the records of royal almoners are subject to question, as these sums were often combined with other expenses of the household, so

it is difficult to extract the exact amounts given by each monarch to those he touched.

Some examples:

Monarch	Year	Number Touched
Edward I	1300	983
	1304	1219
Edward II	1316 (August-December)	214
Edward III	averaged 500/year	

But Edward IV was *denied* the power, according to the writings of Sir John Fortescue. "The Lancastrians refused to admit that the House of York could possess this miraculous gift. The common opinion was that the lawful king could heal, but who was the lawful king?" (Bloch, p.64)

With Henry VII it is hard to estimate numbers, but sufferers were given six shillings and eight pence each! This was the equivalent of a gold coin called an *angel* (so named because it bore the image of St. Michael the Archangel) and was worth (for its time) *several times the penny-alms* which were traditionally given.

"... the alms [were turned] into something of a prize, a lure to those who might have hesitated to come forward for the royal touch . . . Each of the [royal] claimants must have sought to attract to himself by all possible means those who were suffering from scrofula and seeking to be cured . . ." (Bloch, p.66)

The Distribution and Benefits of Cramp Rings

A second ceremony, developed in England from the time of Edward II, offered healing to those who suffered from other maladies. As part of the ritual of adorning the cross on Good Friday, the monarch would place a quantity of new gold and silver coins on the altar, then redeem them with a equal sum of ordinary coin. From the first offering, a number of rings were made which were believed to relieve muscular pain or spasm (especially epilepsy and various tremors) and came to be known as *cramp rings*.

Although the justification for distributing these rings can be argued to date to the reign of Edward the Confessor, it is more likely that many strands of folklore combined to make these *anuli virtuosii* seem to be effective. "Magical medicine made a somewhat sacrilegious comparison between the sufferings due to "cramp" and the agony of Christ upon the cross." (Bloch, p.97) The metal of the coins acquired a special property when transferred to the altar, and to this was added the mystical power of the king, who already possessed ability to heal the scrofulous.

One of the first chronicled instances of royal participation in the blessing of coin/rings occurs during the reign of Edward II, but he seems to have used an older ceremony (not invent a new one) to shore up his popularity. During the reign of Edward III we at last see a *woman's hand* at work. On 30 March 1369, Queen Phil-

lipa followed her husband in placing money on the altar, then redeemed it for making rings. However, any queen who owed her crown to marriage would not have an effective touch for scrofula, since "... only a genuinely royal hand, in the full sense of the word, would suffice." (Bloch, p.103) A hereditary queen like Mary Tudor or Elizabeth I would be "qualified" since her hands were anointed with oil at her coronation.

Ultimately it was found to be more convenient to make the rings in advance and bring them to the altar, where they were redeemed for the set sum of twenty-five shillings. By the time of Mary Tudor, a sequence of ring-blessing prayers exalting the virtues of kingship had developed, such as this collect, which leaves little to the imagination:

O Lord, sanctify these rings, sprinkle them with the goodness of Thy heavenly dew and benediction, and consecrate them by the rubbing of our hands which Thou hast deigned to bless, according to the order of our ministry, through the anointing of the holy oil, so that what the natural metal cannot effect may be accomplished by the greatness of Thy grace ... (Bloch, p.106)

Both the royal touch and the distribution of healing rings were endowed with special significance when they took place on Good Friday. On that day, the afflicted competed to receive either blessing, and English envoys carried a supply of rings with them to the Continent. A keen trade soon developed in the resale of cramp rings:

"Sick people who were unable, for one reason or another, to visit the court in person, or were perhaps frightened by the expense of the journey, used to buy these coins, with the idea of thus acquiring—no doubt at a reduced cost—some share in the miraculous benefits distributed by the sacred hand of the sovereign." (Bloch, p.183)

Evidence of Richard III's participation in the ritual coin-exchange is sadly lacking, perhaps having been lost or destroyed, but may also be explained by the fact that his reign included only two Easter seasons. There is no reason to believe that he would not have performed this central act of monarchy, given that we know of his pious nature and acts of charity and devotion.

The Decline of Royal Healing Power

How did people lose faith in the royal miracles? In both England and France, religious and political movements which laid stress on rational interpretations of events ultimately decided their fate. A consequent change in the popular concept of kingship contributed to the decline of special healing practices, but we find instances of healing under James II and Queen Anne, who continued touching until early in 1714. The last recorded instance of belief in royally-inspired healing (dare I say "at arms length?") was in Ireland in 1901!—a handkerchief stained with the blood of "Henry IX" (the Cardinal of York), brother of Charles Edward Stuart, was believed to cure the King's evil. (The success of this cure was not noted.)

Although it is difficult to be assured of a correct diagnosis of these maladies (since both were catch-all terms for the medieval physician) would scrofula and cramp have subsided without royal aid? The short answer is "yes"—both could appear to have abated spontaneously. We know that scrofula is not easily conquered; modern medicine offers intensive antibiotic therapy which may continue for 18-24 months, yet the disease can go into an "arrest" phase which gives the impression that it has been cured; the royal hand might seem to give this respite. In some ways the range of "cramp" diseases (epilepsy, tremors, etc.) were even more susceptible to a cure by powerful royal suggestion.

Chroniclers did not record "repeat business" or the frequency of relapse, which would have been damaging to belief in royal ability. In any case, a sufferer who did not respond to freely offered healing was probably too sunk in his or her sinful ways to merit healing through the grace of a kingly touch!

"What created faith in the miracle was the idea that there was bound to be a miracle. And this is what kept the belief alive, as well as the accumulating witness of the generations down the ages, all those whose testimony, apparently based upon experience seemed impossible to doubt. As for the probably fairly numerous cases where the disease resisted the touch of the [royal] hands, they were soon forgotten. Such is the happy optimism of believing souls." (Bloch p.243)

At the very least, if the "touch" or the "ring" did not cure, they followed the old medical dictum and "did no harm."

Decimating Disease

A natural extension of this overview of royal healing power leads one to question the epidemic diseases which were not susceptible to an easy cure, but carried off millions of Europeans. We naturally think of bubonic plague as a mass killer about the time of Richard III, but what else lay in wait? While researching on the King's touch, I found a copy of Charles Panati's paperback, *Panati's Extraordinary Endings of Practically Everything and Everybody* (Harper & Row, 1989) in which he examined the enormous impact of infectious disease on human and animal populations through recorded history.

He did not need to labour the point that other centuries had very different concepts of the fragility of existence and "acceptable" life-spans. Modern medical treatments and mass inoculations have all but eradicated deadly diseases from our planet (when did you last hear of a North American dying from typhoid?) but we aren't as safe as we think!

Panati explained: "Plagues are one of nature's most treacherous endings, taking more lives than all the wars in history. One plague alone, the Black Death of the Middle Ages, in less than four years exterminated a third of the population of Europe. Another scourge, smallpox, brought by the Spaniards to America, did more than gunpowder for the European conquest of the New World." (p.220) So much for our image

of war as the greatest decimating force in history! He argued that the omnipresence of viruses and other parasites (on earth before humans) is a natural phenomenon, and though we can sometimes be one or two jumps ahead, we can never be assured that we have totally mastered this aspect of our environment. We only need to look at the currently unsuccessful efforts to tame the AIDS group of viruses to be assured of this.

Epidemic (*"upon the people"*) and pandemic (*"all the people"*) disease first took hold when tribal groups began to live together, enhancing the opportunity for health disasters. Better roads and transportation meant that infectious disease was a frequent passenger and spread quickly to new host populations. The effect of an epidemic is not limited to the deaths of many of the population. Social and moral decline, a lack of agricultural organization (leading to famine, food shortages and malnutrition) and fanatical religious movements often follow in the wake of widespread infections. It seemed to many that there was no sense in the chaos which enveloped the world, and no way to escape from the mysterious transmission of rapidly fatal diseases.

Bubonic Plague, transmitted by flea bites from infected rats, ravaged Europe in the 6th, 14th and seventeenth centuries, carrying off an estimated 137,000,000 victims in total. One could be healthy on Monday and die by the weekend, a victim of blood poisoning (septicemia) or the highly infectious pneumonic form of the disease which spread through airborne contact. Ninety per cent of those who contracted plague died, wiping out the populations of whole cities and weakening the fabric of society.

The pandemic of Justinian's reign (540-90 A.D.) left the Roman Empire in chaos, established the Christian church as a paramount power in society, and destroyed the Greco-Roman system of medical thought. When the disease reappeared in Europe in the mid 1340s as the "Black Death" (so named because of massive internal hemorrhaging which caused dark bruises under the skin) we have more eyewitness accounts, especially in England, where *one third* of the population succumbed. Italian author Agnolo di Tura wrote: *"I buried with my own hands five of my children in a single grave. No bells. No tears. This is the end of the world."*

Pope Clement VI announced 1348 as a Holy Year and encouraged all Christians to make a pilgrimage to Rome to pray for an end to the scourge. By Easter more than 1,250,000 had made their way to the Eternal City; only ten percent returned home. In search of an explanation for the plague, some looked to the Jews as scapegoats (though Clement admonished his flock to cease the persecutions), but this proved futile and eventually the disease simply faded away. *"It had taken the lives of writers and artists like Ghibellina, Titian and Chaucer. Italian lyric poet and scholar Petrarch, who lost his daughter Laura to the plague, wrote that future generations would be 'unable to imagine the empty houses, abandoned towns, the squalid countryside, fields littered with the dead, the dreadful silence and solitude that hung over the whole world.'"* (Panati, p.228)

The third occurrence, the 1665-66 "Great Plague" in

London, took the lives of 2,000 people each week at its peak, before literally burning out in the Great Fire. As late as 1907, it struck in the U.S., causing 75 deaths. The mortality rate has now lowered to 3-5%, but the bacillus is still on the planet . . . waiting.

While not a major killer in northern Europe, *Malaria* has been cited as a weakening factor in the collapse of the Roman world. Spread by the female *Anopheles* mosquito, the disease infected about 60% of the population of Rome under Julius Caesar. The associated chills, sweating and anemia frequently led to death in the very young and old.

Smallpox (the "lesser pox", to distinguish it from syphilis) a highly infectious disease, spread by inhaling flakes from a victim's scabs, and left its victims (up to half the European population in the 17th century) scarred and disfigured, or dead. Panati wrote: *"In the eighteenth century alone, smallpox killed sixty million Europeans. Ninety-five percent of the people who survived to adulthood bore smallpox scars. Police 'wanted' posters often identified a criminal by the pattern of pockmarks on his face."* (p.233) Fortunately, this disease has been almost totally eradicated, and lives only in deep-frozen containers in disease research labs.

The British called it the "French disease"; the French called it the "British disease" and the Spanish blamed it on natives of the New World, who in turn . . . *Syphilis* (and gonorrhea) probably originated in northern Africa, and found a welcoming audience at the French military campaigns under Charles VIII in the mid-1490s. The church now had an opportunity to promulgate theories on morality and personal hygiene, as the great pox was obviously a punishment for bodily sins. Since physicians could offer no aid, it was left to the untrained to devise mercury cures, which often poisoned the victim while keeping the original complaint under poor control.

"Typhoid and related dysentery, changed the course of history more directly than any other human ailment. That is because epidemics of typhoid most often struck soldiers in battle, easily tipping victory toward the healthier forces." (p.241) At the battle of Crecy (1346), English soldiers were so incapacitated by diarrhea, they were easy marks for French bowmen. Panati wondered what would have happened in England if Edward the Black Prince had not succumbed to dysentery; would Richard II have come to the throne, and the country have suffered through a long minority rule?

Though outside the years of our historical interest, *Tuberculosis* (consumption) had a peak effect in Europe in the 17th and 18th centuries, spread by bacteria released by a cough or sneeze. It flourished in dark crowded workhouses in large cities, and was conquered in the 1950s by the antibiotic streptomycin. Additionally, the *Influenza* epidemic which gripped [excuse pun!] the world in 1918-19, killed about 25,000,000 with a mixture of flu and pneumonia.

It is almost incomprehensible to read of the chilling progress of these and other diseases. Life could be so short, brought to an end by warfare, malnutrition, child-

birth, the aftermath of an infected cut—or by one of these mass killers. In the closing years of this millennium, North Americans expect that the medical system will conquer communicable diseases with little cost or pain. Perhaps the spectre of AIDS can still remind us of our mortality, and the reality of life and death in the middle ages, when Boccaccio wrote: "How many valiant men, how many fair ladies, breakfasted with their kinsfolk and that same night supped with their ancestors in the other world." (Panati, p.255)

One epidemic worthy of examination ravaged England immediately after Richard's death. In the days after the Battle of Bosworth, a new and deadly sickness swept the country. Described by Hans Zinsser in *Rats, Lice and History*, (p.95) it proceeded in this deadly fashion:

After the Battle of Bosworth . . . there broke out in the ranks of the conquering army a disease that completely put a stop to the procession of the victorious troops. With disbanded soldiers, it was carried into London . . .

The Sweat began with chills and tremors, then fever, cardiac pain, headache, and profuse sweating. Unlike many epidemics, it attacked the young and healthy first, and death came with truly astonishing speed; sometimes within hours.

In the wake of the decimating illness which reached London by 21 September, six city officials died within a week, the coronation was postponed, and Oxford University remained closed for six weeks. We know Henry was eager to establish the validity of his claim to the throne through acts of publicly-seen generosity as well as performing healing miracles. His first "gift" which brought death to so many of his new subjects was an auspicious beginning to the Tudor reign. Did he feel remorse for this immediate and deadly impact of his usurpation?

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Hans Zinsser *Rats, Lice and History: The Biography of a Bacillus*. Boston, Little & Brown, 1963. (first published 1934)

About the Author:

Christine has been a member of the Society since 1976, has chaired the Canadian Society for four years (including their 500th anniversary celebrations and reenactment of the Coronation) and edited the *RHI* for seven years. Her husband, Clement Carelse, was elected as the new Canadian Chairman at their AGM on 3 October, 1992. Along with an ancient (and mint condition) Teaching Certificate, Christine holds a B.A. (Geography major) and a M.A. (History) from the University of Guelph. Her thesis was on "The Lollards in London: 1380-1530".

HELP RICHARD'S MIDDLEHAM

Middleham Castle was home to Richard III, more than any other place in England, in his youth and for most of his adult life. In Middleham, as nowhere else in England, Richard is still remembered, respected—and loved.

Because Middleham was Richard's castle, Middleham shared his fate. Shunned by the Tudors, ravaged by Cromwell, the castle stands today as reminder of the splendour that it once was, and represents a part of history that is a bitter legacy of betrayal.

Today, Middleham is under the protection of English Heritage. To help English Heritage with their work, the Middleham Restoration Endowment Inc. is working in conjunction with English Heritage for the sole purpose of raising funds for the fabric of the castle so they may continue their ongoing restoration and preservation of this important Ricardian history. You can help us support our work with a donation or the purchase of the following items:

Middleham T-Shirt or Sweat Shirt
Medium blue w/dk. blue castle design, S, M, L, XL
T-Shirt - \$15.00 Sweat-Shirt - \$25.00

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Tote Bag (19 x 15) w/drawing of Richard \$13.95

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From the Castle of Ricardius Rex

Silver Stickers/Loyaulte Me Lie \$1.10 dz.

Pennants (Standard of Richard III) \$2.00

Pendant (pewter boar) \$24.95

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Seal of King Richard III

(Shipping/Handling \$3.00.) Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery. Make checks payable to Middleham Restoration Endowment, Inc.

Middleham Restoration Endowment, Inc.
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MORE THAN OUR MONEY'S WORTH

Laura V. Blanchard

Many new members of the American Branch are curious about our Schallek Awards program. Just exactly *what* is it? they ask. The real question, of course, is "what am I getting in return for my Schallek Fund contribution?" Our investment in our first Schallek Scholar has paid off in both solid scholarship and service to the Society.

Lorraine C. Attreed, our first Schallek Scholar, demonstrates the way our scholarship recipients often repay our modest investment tenfold and more. "When we gave Lorraine the award the first year, we thought she was a promising young scholar," says Professor Morris G. McGee, first chairman of the Schallek Committee. "We were wrong. She became an *amazingly* promising scholar — and that promise has come to fruition." Schallek Committee member Charles Wood elaborates: "I think Lorraine Attreed is one of the most brilliant people I've ever met. As a historian, she always displays an absolute bibliographic mastery of whatever she's working on. Even more striking, she seems to have a deeply intuitive and compassionate grasp of those whom she studies. In many ways, then, she has the potential to become *the* medievalist of her generation."

Attreed has served the American Branch as Research Officer and as a member of the Schallek Advisory Board. She has made important contributions to the field of fifteenth-century studies in her analysis of town/Crown relationships in late medieval England, in her transcription and thoughtful analysis of such source documents as a 1476 indenture between Richard Duke of Gloucester and Thomas Scrope, and in her editorship of the *York House Books 1461-1490*. Finally, with husband/colleague Professor James Powers at the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Massachusetts, she is breaking important new ground, using contemporary films to give undergraduates a sense of life in the middle ages — a topic that put her on the podium with actor Charlton Heston at a recent meeting of the American Historical Association.

The Town and the Crown: Studies in Late Medieval Municipal Government

Attreed has brought an interdisciplinary approach to her academic investigations since her undergraduate days at the University of New Mexico, where she created a medieval studies program for herself under the guise of a major in anthropology. Winning a coveted Marshall Scholarship, which covers two years of graduate study at any British school, Attreed settled on the University of York. Her work at York, which was also partly supported by the American Branch's modest contribution, resulted in published articles on medieval childhood and on the fee farm of the city of York — an annual payment due

the Crown which was an important and ongoing issue in Richard's relations with the town both as Duke of Gloucester and later as king. Her article, "The King's Interest: York's Fee Farm and the Central Government, 1480-1492," explored the conflicting demands of good lordship to the town and the need for the fee farm revenues as a source of income for royal patronage. In the apparent discrepancies between the royal will as perceived by city officials and the activities of the Exchequer, Attreed traces "the confusion that resulted when civic officials acted on royal promises," further noting that "[t]hat confusion can be interpreted as a comment on both the nature of expectations composing the relationship between Crown and city, and the increasing complexities of the central administration of the late fifteenth century."¹ Attreed's interest in late medieval municipal governments formed the basis of her continued graduate work at Harvard University and of a broad range of publications on urban issues. It also formed the basis for her interest in Richard III. As she observes with masterful understatement, "When you're studying late fifteenth-century York, Richard is pretty hard to miss."

The American Branch began to realize a return on its scholarship investment immediately; during the early 1980s Attreed served as the American Branch research officer. Her reports, delivered at the annual general meetings, gave overviews of scholarly research into late fifteenth-century English history and culture that were both succinct and comprehensive. They had the further advantage of bringing the arcana of advanced scholarship into sharp focus for the "general reader," a term which accurately describes most of the members of the American Branch. She presented papers based on her research at the Richard III Society-sponsored conference in April 1981 at Trinity College, Oxford and at the first American Branch-sponsored session at the International Medieval Conference in Kalamazoo, May 1983.

While doing her graduate work, Attreed also worked as a consultant, advising private collectors on the historical significance and monetary value of fifteenth-century manuscripts. Two of these assignments resulted in publications. The first, in *Speculum*, explored the significance of a 1476 indenture between Richard Duke of Gloucester and the Scrope family of Masham and Upsall. This indenture, placing young Thomas Scrope under Richard's protection and patronage at a time the Scrope family was especially vulnerable, may explain Scrope's continuing loyalty to Richard's cause even after Richard's death, despite relatively modest rewards for his service during Richard's lifetime. Attreed concludes, "It is . . . likely that Thomas's loyalty originated from the time when Richard had promised to be a good and loving lord to the widow

Elizabeth, and to take young Thomas to be 'hooly . . . at his Rule and guyding.' By the survival of the Scrope-Gloucester indenture, the roots of that loyalty are now known."²

Another fascinating document, analyzed by Attreed during this period and published in *Mediaeval Studies*, was a letter from Henry VII to Edward Courteney, earl of Devon, in September 1497. Written in the midst of Perkin Warbeck's attempt at Henry's throne, this letter, according to Attreed, "provides new details of Henry's defence and the ways in which the king planned to crush a threat that had plagued him for too many years."³

Most graduate students find themselves teaching in addition to studying, and Attreed is no exception. She served as a teaching fellow/teaching assistant at Harvard from 1981 to 1986; and following the completion of her Ph.D. work, she served there as lecturer on history for the 1984-85 academic year. In 1985 she was asked to join the Schallek Advisory Board, the group of scholars who review scholarship applications and choose the annual recipient(s). In 1986 she joined the faculty of the College of the Holy Cross where her wide variety of medieval history courses has included a college honors seminar, *The Age of Richard III*.

Much of Attreed's research in recent years has focused on late medieval English towns; in fact, her current work-in-progress is a book, *The King's Towns: Royal Relations with Provincial Boroughs in Late Medieval England*, with articles on medieval urban finance, domestic budgets and late medieval poverty; on urban patronage patterns; on medieval mothers; and on comparisons and contrasts between Richard III of England and Pedro the Cruel of Castile, another monarch who suffered from posthumous bad press. This interest is reflected in many of her publications over the last eight years, as well as in the number of research grants and fellowships (from the American Bar Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and Holy Cross) for editing and preparing for publication the medieval council records of York. *The York House Books, 1461-1490*, published in 1991 by Alan Sutton with financial support from the Richard III and Yorkist History Trust, are a transcription of some of the most important documents found in English town archives. This two-volume edition is the first-ever complete transcript of Books 1-6 of this valuable source, together with a full introduction and much additional material from the York archives. All aspects of medieval town life are illustrated: royal visits, proclamations, political events in the Wars of the Roses, local by-laws and craft regulations, and arrangements for the performances of the York mystery plays. *The York House Books* also present an unparalleled view of Richard Duke of Gloucester, both before and after his accession to the throne. [Ed. Note: For ordering information, contact the Sales Officer.]

Editing the *York House Books*, Attreed comments, gave her a keen sense of the self-interest at work on both sides in Richard's relationship with York. "On the one hand, you have the town very eager to enjoy the benefits of Richard's 'good lordship' — a relationship they were very

careful not to define at all precisely. On the other hand, you have the nobles who are patrons of a town, such as Richard with York, enjoying what we almost might call *bragging rights* — 'look at the spectacles my town puts on to welcome me' and so on." Attreed particularly enjoys the way the council records allow the flavor of particular personalities to come through. "It wasn't all sweetness and light between Richard and York all the time," she cautions. "For example, during the Scottish wars in the early 1480s there was a faction in York that was outspokenly critical of the drain placed on the city by Richard's demand for troops."

According to Attreed, one of the fascinations of the mysteries surrounding Richard III, and of fifteenth-century English history in general, stems from the multiplicity of sources and the fact that the flavor of those individual voices comes through. "Because of the surviving correspondence of the great mercantile families the Pastons, the Plumpton, the Celyswe get a sense of what motivated these people, and how they reacted to a wide range of life experiences." To a certain extent, Attreed maintains, this is possible with Richard as well. "Certainly, he speaks to us in his own voice in his angry postscript about the Buckingham rebellion, where he runs out of space and writes up the side of the page." Because many fifteenth-century people speak in their own voices, and because several views of many of the critical events of Richard's life and reign have survived, unlike earlier periods of English history, Attreed believes the attempt to unravel Richard's mysteries becomes attractive to scholar and armchair historian alike. "Having a figure like Richard III, where many facets of his life and character are an enigma, in the presence of these multiple sources lends a sense that this is a puzzle we can solve."

The Attreed/Powers Effect:

Black Legends and Lessons in the Dark

The faculty appointment at Holy Cross resulted in a personal and professional collaboration with Professor James Powers, a medievalist with a particular research interest in Castile and a passion for the cinema, whom Attreed married in 1988. Two of the professional outgrowths for Attreed are a comparison of the reputations of Richard III in England and Pedro the Cruel in Castile sparked by some comments by Powers; and their film series to introduce undergraduate students to medieval life.

Pedro the Cruel ruled Castile at about the time Henry Bolingbroke was engineering Richard II's deposition in England. After Pedro's fall, a member of the nobility, Lopez de Ayala, used the values of the early Renaissance, as Attreed notes, "to explain why he and others like him deserted their king, why it took them sixteen years to do so, why they chose to support [Pedro's illegitimate half-brother and rival] Enrique, and how the factor of family survival affected their decisions."⁴ Attreed sees striking parallels between the reigns of Pedro and Richard: "Both men felt prompted to consolidate their predecessor's political gains, enhance the prestige of the Crown both at home and abroad, and incorporate the nobility into the

government. During their reigns, contemporary chroniclers expressed at least some discomfort over a too-liberal policy of political execution, including members of their own families. The begetting of an heir was a critical issue with both rulers, and each would be accused of poisoning his wife better to accomplish this task with other women. Both men fell to successors promoting largely illegitimate claims: Enrique of Trastámara, the bastard son of Alfonso XI; Henry Tudor, the descendant of both the illegitimate Beaufort family, and the Tudor offspring of Henry V's widow and her late husband's servant.⁵⁵

What Attreed finds equally striking is that the application of humanist techniques composition, source analysis, and rhetoric by de Ayala in early fifteenth-century Castile was not equalled in England until the arrival of Polydore Vergil in England a century later. Attreed remarked in conversation that the noble who most closely paralleled de Ayala's status at the time in England, Henry Percy, could barely write his name. "Or take Richard," she continued. "While he was certainly capable of drafting a letter, we have no evidence to indicate that he would have been able to match de Ayala's effort." Attreed's comparison of black legends in late medieval Castile and England was presented at the Society for Spanish and Portuguese Historical Studies conference in New Orleans in April 1990.

As for the film series, inaugurated in 1987: speaking in a joint presentation with Powers at a Harvard conference last year, Attreed referred to it as "our public passion." Films are shown on campus on a non-profit basis and complement the material studied in class. Attreed, Powers, or both introduce the film, remarking on its production history as well as its relationship to class topics. Students participate in discussions following the film and in subsequent classes, and essay questions on the films form a part of the final exams.

In adding films to their curriculum, Attreed and Powers balance the advantages and the disadvantages of the compelling force of cinema. Attreed speaks to both these points: "Those of us who teach long to captivate our student audiences, to seize their imaginations and inspire them to take hold of the past with respect fired by passionate curiosity. For those of us who attempt to add film to the standard class assignments of text and source collections, our task gains new complications. The visual images on which film relies can have a potency beyond the power of the teacher to explain, define, and control. The student enraptured by the vision of the past may not gain the critical skills necessary to grasp the messy contradictions and subtle distinctions of history." Attreed argues for the advantages of using films: "American students find the distant European past hard to envision, and few know the geography well enough to have a sense of space and monuments. Particularly difficult to communicate to them is the blend of the recognizable and the remote: the ways in which medieval people are like us, and the ways in which they are shatteringly different in their concepts and actions. Unless that gap is bridged, medieval history will always remain an esoteric subject

lacking that sense of continuum with and connection to contemporary culture and behavior."⁵⁷

Powers speaks to the issue of distortion and its attendant dangers. "One clearly runs the risk of having historical error implanted by vivid screen images, even in the minds of presidents who confuse cinematic for factual events . . . For teachers, such errors will be exceedingly difficult to uproot due to their powerful subconscious implantation through visual reinforcement. However, we accept these risks of 'losses in translation' both as the necessary price to be paid and as a challenge in the achievement of a more active pedagogy with our students."⁵⁸

The first presentation of the joint Attreed/Powers paper on film was at the December 1991 meeting of the American Historical Association. Attreed and Powers invited Charlton Heston to join them in a panel discussion, which was attended by hundreds of historians. Attreed notes that, after the panel, several historians came up to Heston to confess that their interest in medieval studies had been sparked by his performance in *The War Lord*. Similarly, Powers remarks that, following a screening of *The Lion in Winter*, one of his students told him that until that point he had no idea what life in a castle might look like. In both of these instances, the power of film to affect the perception of the medieval era finds vivid demonstration.

Have we gotten our money's worth for our modest investment in the education of Lorraine Attreed? Reflecting on her teaching accomplishments, her contributions to our understanding of late medieval English towns, her service to the American Branch as research officer and member of the Schallek Advisory Board, and her work on using contemporary film to illustrate medieval life, one would have to conclude that the scales are tilted the other way. We probably owe her a bundle.

NOTES:

1. Attreed, Lorraine C. "The King's Interest York's Fee Farm and the Central Government, 1480-1492," *Northern History*, 17 (1981), 24-43.
2. Attreed, Lorraine C. "An Indenture between Richard Duke of Gloucester and the Scrope Family of Masham and Upsall, Yorkshire," *Speculum*, 58 (1983), 1018-25.
3. Attreed, Lorraine C. "A New Source for Perkin Warbeck's Invasion of 1497," *Medieval Studies*, 48 (1986), 514-521.
4. Attreed, Lorraine C. "Black Legends and Historiography in Late Medieval Castile and England," paper presented to the Society for Spanish and Portuguese Historical Studies, April 1990.
5. Ibid.
6. Attreed, Lorraine C. and Powers, James F. "Lessons in the Dark: Teaching the Middle Ages with Film," Harvard University Medieval Doctoral Conference, Cambridge, Mass., October 1992. (Also presented at American Historical Association, December 1991.)
7. Ibid.

MEDIEVALISTS AT THE MOVIES

Capsule reviews of the films used by Attreed and Powers, based on their presentation, "Lessons in the Dark: Teaching the Middle Ages with Film"

- *The Wicker Man* (1973). Explores the relationship between an agrarian society and the pagan religion which nourishes it, as well as the conflict between Christianity and paganism. Despite its modern setting, it illustrates the issues of the conversion of northern Europe after the fifth century.
- *Stealing Heaven* (1989). Flawed but useful, the story of Abelard and Heloise is a treatment alternately sentimental and erotic. Students come away fascinated, wanting to know "how accurate is it?" "No other film has attempted to depict the application of logic to theological principles as the thrilling and dangerous sport that Abelard makes it." — Attreed.
- *The Lion in Winter* (1968). Peter O'Toole and Katherine Hepburn as Henry II and Eleanor of Aquitaine. Great acting and lots of anachronisms, many noticeable even to students with limited background in medieval studies. "The confidence they gain in being able to discern distortions facilitates the entire learning process." — Attreed.
- *The Sorceress* (1988). Story line dominated by women, who are portrayed as resourceful, dignified, wise. Explores the tension between Christianity and the older culture of paganism that remained in European agrarian cultures. Despite its amateurish acting and direction, included because the film is "particularly strong in showing how the medieval church accommodated itself to popular beliefs and practices." — Attreed.
- *The Return of Martin Guerre* (1982). Set in sixteenth century but explores issues common to both medieval and Renaissance eras. The events of the film "force issues of women, sexual relations, and family values before students unaccustomed to acknowledging that these subjects have histories of their own." — Attreed.
- *The War Lord* (1965). Charlton Heston as an impoverished knight of the late eleventh century. "Heston and his garrison appear to have ridden onto celluloid straight from the Bayeux Tapestry." — Powers.
- *El Cid* (1961). A Heston epic, running more than three hours. Location photography makes this a striking production. Still, the film requires a great deal of explanation or correction by the professor. "Ultimately its epic scope, multi-cultural complexities and burdensome literary baggage weigh down its endeavors to build historic momentum." — Powers.
- *Richard III* (1956). "An effective tool for awakening students to the ambiguities of primary sources, the distortions of historical fact at the hands of a powerful playwright, and the power of myth and its essential role in society." — Powers.
- *Henry V* (1943). The Olivier version. The propaganda needs of World War II England form striking parallels with Henry V's own propaganda needs after Agincourt. "A rich treat for eye, ear and historic consciousness, but modern students caught in late-adolescent cynicism need help in appreciating the levels of its message." — Powers.



Drs. Lorraine Attreed and James Powers

- *Henry V* (1989). The Branagh version. Students seem to prefer it, although Powers confesses that he does not. "We show both films and find that students profit from exploring these two different approaches to a late medieval and Shakespearean subject."
- *Robin Hood*. Powers compares three versions: Warner (1938) with Errol Flynn, *Robin and Marian* (1976) with Sean Connery and Audrey Hepburn, both of which are used in their film series; and *Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves* (1991), which is not. Says Powers of the *Robin Hood* films, "The context demands that issues of politics, law, and social environment of the 1180s and 1190s be presented on film, in ways that provide opportunities for student discussion and questions." Powers praises both Warner and Connery for casting and color, cites Warner for "panache" and Connery for "a genuinely poetic ending." As for Costner: "The film could merit use in a decade or two as an indication of the potency of political correctness in the 1990s . . . but its persistent wrongheadedness in the misuse of historic detail leaves it unsuitable for introducing the Middle Ages to students of any era."
- *Alexander Nevsky* (1938). Parallels epic 1242 battle between invading Teutonic Knights and Prince Nevsky's Russian forces with the threat of contemporary German invasion in World War II.
- *The Seventh Seal* (1956). Black-and-white film by noted Swedish director Ingmar Bergman. "... Gives us a depiction of plague-ridden fourteenth-century Sweden as seen through Bergman's mystical lens. A simple narrative does not do justice to the complex symbolism of the film." — Powers.



The Last Sun of York

An Exploration of the Life and Times of Richard III

The Richard III Society Inc. — American Branch is pleased to introduce the 1993 Ricardian Tour.

When the final blows in the Wars of the Roses were struck, the Plantagenet dynasty and the White Rose of York fell with Richard III. It was the last time a King of England led fully armoured knights into battle, and the last time an English king died in battle. The Duke of Gloucester and brother of Edward IV remain among the most enigmatic and controversial figures in English history.

Our road trip begins in the West with a visit to Tewkesbury, where Richard commanded the flank of the Yorkist army in the decisive battle that buried Lancastrian hopes. We visit Warwick Castle, considered to be the archetypal example of the medieval castle, and home of the acclaimed Richard III exhibition, "To Prove A Villain."

Then, to Leicester and the sites of Richard's final stand against young Henry Tudor. A highlight will certainly be our visit to Bosworth Field on August 22nd, the anniversary of the Battle. We will watch armored knights contest the field in commemoration, as they did 507 years ago. Bow Bridge, Harpers Hill, and Sutton Cheney. Also Richard's birthplace at Fotheringhay Castle.

Heading north to Yorkshire, we will make headquarters in the medieval city of York, cultural and political heart of England's north country since the days of the Romans. An excursion to Middleham Castle, where Richard trained as a boy and felt most at home when King. Barnard Castle, Raby and Sheriff Hutton Castle as well. Unexpected diversions along the way, and plenty of time for relaxation, afternoon tea, or a pint in the corner pub.

We'll begin and end in London. This most exciting of world capitals provides a perfect counterpoint to the English heartland of our travels. With its incomparable range of shopping and monuments, tree-lined boulevards and galaxy of museums, London offers a clean, safe potpourri which captures the imagination and the heart.

Lord Addison Travel has meticulously crafted an itinerary at a pace that is comfortable for everyone. Whether you've been to England many times, or never crossed the Atlantic, this promises to be an adventure

both memorable and elegant. Every excursion is included in the program fees, but everything is optional as well. This is a travel adventure that will refresh and exhilarate without leaving the traveler worn and exhausted.

Our all inclusive itinerary offers a wonderful opportunity to sample England in more depth than the usual tourist itineraries allow. This is not a scholar's tour, but a thematic exploration into a fascinating period of English history. An opportunity to visit England with a sense of purpose and interesting, congenial company. An unforgettable experience for lovers of medieval history and the English monarchy, this is certainly a pilgrimage for those with a special interest in Richard III.

Perhaps the best feature of THE LAST SUN OF YORK is the value. Everything is included in the cost, so there are no surprises. Round-trip airfare on British Airways to London, distinctive hotels of style and character, full English breakfasts, and table d'hôte dinners in first-class hotel dining rooms are only the beginning. Lord Addison includes theatre, one lunch at the Angel & Royal in Gratham, admission fees to everything featured in the itinerary, customs fees and travel insurance. The last night in London, however, does not include dinner, so you can set your own pace for the theatre, or try one of England's great Indian restaurants.

Program fees for THE LAST SUN OF YORK listed below are per one person, double occupancy. There is a single supplement of \$350, and singles are certainly invited.

Boston/New York/Newark/Philadelphia	\$2340
Detroit/Chicago/Pittsburg/Washington, D.C.	\$2440
Atlanta/Dallas/Houston/Miami	\$2490
Los Angeles/San Francisco/Seattle	\$2590

For more information concerning the tour, contact Mike Induni, Lord Addison Travel Tour Ltd, P. O. Box 3307, Peterborough, NH 03458, 800-326-0170 or (603) 924-8407. Please be sure to mention that you are a member of the Society.

Or, you may contact our Tour Coordinator, Dale Summers, at 218 Varsity Circle, Arlington, TX 76013, 817-274-0052.

The Last Sun of York

An Exploration of the Life and Times of Richard III August 17-26, 1993

A Ten Day Royal Progress With Richard III Departing:
August 17th, 1993 Returning: August 26th, 1993

Day 1 — Tuesday: Departure this evening aboard British Airways regular overnight service from your international gateway.

Day 2 - Wednesday: Morning arrival in London. You will be met by your courier for the transfer to our central London hotel. There will be time to settle in, rest and explore the neighborhood. This afternoon, your courier will offer an orientation to London and the surrounding area. Tonight, a festive dinner party will welcome the group to London.

Day 3 — Thursday: Panoramic sight-seeing in London today will focus on sites associated with Richard III: Crosby Hall, All Hollows by the Tower, the Houses of Parliament, Tower of London and an excursion to the site of the 1471 Battle of Barnet. There will also be time this afternoon to further explore the city on your own: the Museum of London, boat rides on the Thames, and The National Portrait Gallery are all popular choices. The group gathers for an early pub supper and an evening to the theater in London's West End.

Day 4 — Friday: Leaving London this morning, west toward The Cotswolds. A visit to the ruins of Minster Lovell Hall, where Richard's counselor, Francis Lovell, starved to death in hiding following his attainder for treason. On to Tewkesbury, where Richard commanded Edward IV's flank in the 1471 Battle of Tewkesbury. The battle site, and Tewkesbury Abbey. Perhaps Tewkesbury Museum, with its diorama of the battle, before proceeding to our hotel for dinner.

Day 5 — Saturday: Today we will turn north. A morning visit to Warwick Castle, Anne Neville's birthplace, and widely regarded as the finest medieval castle in England. A stop at Kenilworth Castle on our way to Leicestershire. Our destination is the county town of Leicester, Richard's headquarters before the fatal clash at Bosworth Field. There will be time to visit the legendary Bow Bridge and explore the town before gathering again for dinner at our hotel.

Day 6 — Sunday: On the anniversary of the Battle of Bosworth, we will retrace the final course of Richard to the battlefield at Market Bosworth. Harpens Hill, and the superb Battlefield Visitor Center. A chance to walk the York and Tudor lines, and be a part of the com-

memoration of the battle. Also a visit to nearby Sutton Cheney Church, with its memorial raised by The Richard III Society, before returning to our hotel in Leicester.

Day 7 — Monday: Today we head north to the city of York. After checking into our hotel, we take a walking tour of the city center, including majestic York Minster. The rest of the afternoon is free to explore the warren of cobbled streets which lie within York's walls. You might visit the Jorvik Viking Centre, or The Shambles, The Castle Museum or the National Railway Museum, have afternoon tea at Betty's or shop in the open air market.

Day 8 — Tuesday: Our excursion today first takes us north to the picturesque vales of Wensleydale. Our destination is Middleham Castle, Richard's favorite and principal residence awarded to him by his brother when it fell to the Crown following Richard Neville's death at the Battle of Barnet. From here we continue north to the ruins of Barnard Castle and then on to Aaby, the family seat of the Nevilles until 1589. Return to York via Sheriff Hutton Castle and the Church of St. Helen, where Richard III's only legitimate son Edward is said to have been buried in 1484.

Day 9 — Wednesday: Today we head south to Gainsborough for a visit to Gainsborough Old Hall before continuing on to Grantham, where Richard received the Great Seal at The Angel & Royal during Buckingham's rebellion. We have lunch (included) in the dining room where Richard himself stayed. The route will then continue south toward Peterborough, for a visit to the ruins of Fotheringhay Castle, where Richard was born in 1452, and the church at Fotheringhay where Richard's parents, the Duke and Duchess of York, are buried. Then on to London. From the return to our hotel, time is now your own in London. Our courier will help chart your course in the city, offer assistance with theater tickets, or recommend one of his Lordship's favorite restaurants. You might visit The Wallace Collection, or wander through Covent Garden.

Day 10 — Thursday: The reluctant return. All good things must come to an end, and ours do with a transfer to the airport for returning flights home. Or if you would like to stay on in London for a few days, Lord Addison would be happy to make arrangements.





RICARDIAN POST

4 February 1993
Potomac, MD

Dear Ms. Rike:

I have just completed reading Robert Baker's article entitled *The Fate of The Princes In The Tower* in the Winter 1992 issue of the *The Ricardian Register*. I was struck by the fact that a great many Ricardians act as if admissions that the Tower Children were the Princes and that they died in 1483 establish that Richard III had them murdered. That does not follow. Herewith a few observations.

1. The evidence considered by Mr. Baker establishes that the Tower bones are those of two children who died at some time prior to 1647. It is consistent with a finding that the bones are those of the Princes. It is consistent with a finding that they are not.
2. Dental evidence, not considered by Mr. Baker, establishes that both children suffered from hypodontia — i.e. they were born with missing teeth. This condition is an inherited characteristic. It runs in families, and was found to exist in Lady Anne Mowbray, the child bride of Richard, Duke of York, the younger of the two Princes. Anne Mowbray was also young Richard's cousin. The evidence is discussed in the *The Trial Of Richard III*, Alan Sutton Publishing Limited (UK 1984) which is available through the Society.
3. An analysis of the sacrum of the elder Tower Child indicates the possibility that the child suffered from spinal bifida. If true, that would also provide a reason for the smallness of that child's stature relative to the younger one's. (Remember Shakespeare has Richard III remark — concerning Edward V's small stature relative to that of his brother — that "small herbs have grace; great weeds do grow apace.")
4. The evidence thus indicates that the Tower Children probably were related to each other, and that they shared a defect also found in cousins of the Princes. History does not record the imprisonment and death of Plantagenet children other than the Princes in the Tower. Therefore, it appears somewhat more likely than not that the Tower children were Edward IV's sons. But to accept them as the Princes is not to identify their uncle as their murderer.
5. Richard III was uncle to more than the Princes. He was also uncle to Edward of Warwick, the son of Edward IV's younger brother, George, Duke of Clarence. While attainted, and perhaps mentally deficient, Edward of Warwick had a potential claim to the Crown better than Richard's and could also have served as a source of political power. (Lest this seem far fetched, remember that attainders were reversible, and Henry VI was mentally ill during much of his reign, his affairs being largely managed by Margaret of Anjou.)
6. Whatever happened to Edward of Warwick? Well there's no mystery here. Henry VII put Edward of Warwick in the Tower of London in 1485 and put him to death a number of years later. Henry VII also married Elizabeth of York on becoming King. Therefore, history clearly establishes that Henry VII "neutralized" two of the major claims known to be superior to his. If Henry VII is known to have killed one of Richard III's nephews, how much of a stretch is it to credit him with the Princes as well?
7. There remains the question of how it was done. The known facts have always implicated Buckingham. Polydore Vergil held that Buckingham used Richard III as a "wrecking ball" to eliminate all political opposition to his bid for the Crown. If for himself (as Vergil thought) why not for his relatives Margaret Beaufort and her son Henry Tudor?
8. It seems likely then, that Henry Stafford, Duke Buckingham killed the Princes in a conspiracy with Henry Tudor and his mother (active in England during Tudor's exile) whose purpose was to 1) eliminate all better claims to the Crown than his and 2) provide a pretext for invasion. The likely time of the murders was between 20 and 30 July 1483, after Richard left on his Progress, and just before the start of Buckingham's Rebellion. (Note: it is also suspicious that one of Henry VII's first acts on "taking office" was to renovate the royal apartments in the Garden (now bloody) Tower where the Princes were interred. In undertaking this renovation, Henry displayed a liberality with money which was far from typical of his rule.)

In any event, accepting 1) the Tower Bones as those of Edward V and Richard, Duke of York, and that 2) the Princes died in 1483, does not convict Richard III of their

deaths. To me it is probable that the man who murdered Edward of Warwick murdered his cousins, and that the man who preserved Edward of Warwick, did not. Finally, a death date in 1483 suggests more strongly that they were murdered to make way for Henry Tudor and to destabilize the existing regime than that they were murdered to solidify Richard III's control.

Very truly yours,
Peter S. Latham

7 February 1993
London

Dear Carole:

I am writing to you as editor of the *Ricardian Register*, which both Carolyn and I always read with interest. I read with particular interest the article by Robert Baker on the Abbey bones in your Winter issue. Mr. Baker's approach is a new way of looking at the Tanner and Wright report and he makes some interesting points. However I do not think it is entirely fair of him to cite my remark from my *Royal Anecdotes* letter to support a general attitude of deference to science. This letter was originally written in the context of a review by William White and myself ("The Disappearance of the Sons of Edward IV . . . and the Skeletons in Westminster Abbey," in *Richard III: Loyalty, Lordship and Law*, edited by myself in 1986), cited by White in the other letter published in *Royal Anecdotes*, (both were originally published in the *Times*).

In that article we criticised Wright's report and as well as doing so from the historical evidence we did so from a scientific point of view — both of us are qualified scientists (as well as, we hope, historians) and so were not intimidated by Wright's most unscientific 'scientific' methods!

Hoping all is well with you,

Best wishes
Peter Hammond

Nominating Committee Seeks Candidates

Roxane Murph will head the Nominating Committee for the 1993 elections.

If you wish to nominate an individual for the office of Vice Chairman, please contact Roxane prior to July 1. You should also have the concurrence of the individual before submitting his/her name.



SCHALLEK FUND CONTINUES TO GROW

Contributors to the Schallek
Endowment Fund,
1992-93 Ricardian Year to Date:

Terry L. Adkins
Peggy Allen*
Lee Anthony*
Lorraine C. Attreed*
Morgan E. Bailey
Carol Barnstead*
Dianne Batch*
Bonnie Battaglia*
Paul H. Bonner*
Roberta Brown
Martha Calhoun*
Jeff and Toni Collins*
Tony and Belinda Collins
Frances Davis*
Mr. and Mrs. George D'Angelo*
Valerie DeClare*
Philip & Doris Derickson*
Alan Dixler*
Wendy Emmert*
Haynie Hensel
C. U. Jackson*
Virginia C. Johnson*
Morris G. McGee
Gene McManus
Deniza Martin*
Mary Miller
Roxane C. Murph
Ellen and Al Perlman*
Louis Pernicka
Helen Petrik*
Judith Pimenthal*
Ann Rabinowitz
Elizabeth N. Ray
Shelley A. Sinclair*
Southeastern Pennsylvania Chapter
Southern California Chapter*
Anne Stites*
Dale Summers*
Tedd Trimbath*
Ruth Anne Vineyard*

* Part or all of this contribution eligible for matching funds from General Fund. List incomplete at time of mailing.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

TOUR COORDINATOR: DALE SUMMERS

No stranger to most American Ricardians, who relish her insightful book reviews, newly-appointed tour coordinator Dale Summers brings a combination of personal enthusiasm and familiarity with Ricardian Britain to her new position. But let her tell you in her own words:

"My love affair with England began when I was 16 and introduced to English literature. My interest soon spread to English history and at some point in my reading I met Richard. Naturally, being an advocate for the underdog (or hog in this case), I became a partisan to such an extent that when we were in graduate school, Roxane Murph borrowed a goodly number of Richard books from me for researching her thesis. As soon as tentative plans were made to form the Southwest Chapter, I joined the national society and then the local chapter.

"I have been to England four times, the last two being in 1984 where we celebrated Richard's 500th anniversary in Scarborough and then in 1985 when the Southwest Chapter went to Bosworth.



Dale Summers

"I am delighted to be involved in coordinating this tour. It is a labor of love. If I do not get to go on the tour in fact, I'll be going in my imagination."

ARCHIVIST: MARY DONERMAYER

Maintaining comprehensive archives for the American Branch is hard work. But Mary Donermeyer is used to working hard for Ricardian causes. Since joining the American Branch in 1986, she has served on the nominating committee and reviewed the applications of potential Schallek Scholars. Now, with her appointment as archivist, she takes on the assignment of preserving our Ricardian heritage.

"As a historical society, we should have a unique appreciation of the value of our own history," Mary observes. "The American Branch's archives can play an important role in recognizing, preserving and building on our origins, our traditions and our accomplishments."

A chemist by training, Mary has pursued an avocational research interest in Ricardian topics for years, and in fact called for information on the Richard III Society from the Library of Congress. Over the years her organizational abilities have been challenged by the demands of raising nine children (who, she brags, are "the nicest people in the world, except for my grandchildren.")

Mary is hopeful that the archival records can be used to maintain an ongoing Society history. "I'm sure there will be specific areas where the membership can help,"



Mary and husband Donald Donermeyer

she observes. "For example, I'd like to ask them to send photos (such as from AGMs), clippings from local papers, playbills, and so on."

She's also open to suggestions from other members. "I have no objection to inventing the job as we go along. Advice is always welcome."

SCATTERED STANDARDS

(Chapter News & Updates)

NEW ENGLAND

Four meetings were held centering around a theme of Medieval Art and Architecture. A March visit to the Museum of Fine Art in Boston to view its permanent medieval collection, as well as a special exhibit of sketches of Fra Bartolommeo, brought the largest attendance of fourteen members.

B. B. Atherton hosted a July meeting at which the topic of discussion was Jack Leslau's hypothesis that the Princes survived the Tower and Richard became a member of the Sir Thomas More household. A proposal was made to survey the membership to determine how Chapter charitable donations be allocated.

An informal brunch meeting was held in August to commemorate Bosworth. Results of the July survey selected the Schallek Fund, the Middleham Restoration Endowment and Richard III curriculum for funding.

The last meeting, held in October, was a guided tour of the Fairhaven Unitarian Memorial Church arranged by Professor and Dr. Rosenfield. This Gothic style church was built at the turn of the century by Henry Huttleston Rogers as a memorial to his mother. The exquisite wood carvings are made from oak imported from Cambridgeshire.

Donald Donermeyer

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

The October 24th meeting was held at the home of Judy Pimental. Members in attendance were Ellen Ekstrom Fernandez, Jacqueline Bloomquist, Bonnie and Mary Jane, and Angelo Battaglia and Judy Pimental, along with a potential future member, Nicholas Andres Fernandez.

Ellen Fernandez reviewed the good publicity the Society received from the San Francisco Examiner in connection with the San Francisco production of McKellan's Richard III.

Ellen announced that the Chapter would not be hosting an AGM in 1994 or 1995 due to the fact that no proposal had been submitted to the Executive Board in time to be considered. A discussion was held on possible locations and logistics for a future Northern California AGM.

The Berkeley Public Library exhibit around Bosworth Day was a success and generated quite a bit of interest.

Ellen Fernandez announced her development of a one-semester course on the life and times of Richard III, a long-range project with which she solicits help and contributions of material.

Judith A. Pimental

NORTHWEST CHAPTER

The October 10, 1992, meeting was held at Beverlee Weston's beautiful new condominium in Tacoma, WA. After enjoying a delicious "salad luncheon," Mallory Paxton gave an excellent talk on "Basic Facts on Richard's Life." This was most appropriate as our group has gained several new members over the past year.

We gathered at Leona Sullivan's home in North Seattle, as is our tradition, to celebrate with our annual Christmas Potluck. As is also tradition, we indulged in a great variety of scrumptious foods (the main attraction) and conducted a Chapter Business Meeting.

The next scheduled Chapter meeting will be held in March at the Federal Way Library, just South of Seattle. Our chapter will also have a Ricardian display exhibited at the City Library in Federal Way in March.

Lisa Currah

OHIO CHAPTER

On January 16, 1993, the Ohio Chapter held its winter meeting at the West Corrollton Civic Center in Dayton, Ohio. In attendance were 25 members and guests.

The program consisted of "Music from the Time of Richard the Third," presented by opera singers Lora and Tony Fabio, accompanied by Dr. Charles Larkowski of the Wright State University Music Department and Margaret Erin, director of "Wind in the Woods," a professional early-music ensemble. For an hour, the Ohio Chapter was transported back in time. The witty and enlightening commentary by Dr. Larkowski before each song made the afternoon especially entertaining.

After the program, the Ohio Chapter reconvened at the home of Tedd Trimboth for tea and cookies, and the business meeting.

The Ohio Chapter endorsed the efforts of Laura Blanchard (chairman of the American Branch's Schallek Memorial/Graduate Fellowship Committee) to raise additional monies for the Schallek Fund.

The article on Perkin Warbeck in the Feb/Mar 1993 issue of *British Heritage* magazine was discussed. The consensus was that Perkin may have been an illegitimate Plantagenet, but that he was not one of the two "Princes in the Tower".

A brief synopsis of the Shakespeare Oxfordian Society was given by Janet Sweet and Tedd Trimboth, with particular emphasis on SOS's 1992 AGM in Cleveland.

Thanks were extended to Janet Sweet for providing brochures on the Ohio Chapter at the afternoon's musical event.

The next meeting of the Ohio Chapter will be on April 18, 1993 in Mansfield, Ohio. The subject will be

"The Evolution of the Walled City," presented by John Moosmiller. John has travelled extensively to the extant walled cities of Europe, so expect a memorable afternoon.

Tedd M. Trimboth, Secretary

SOUTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER

Our January meeting was the long-anticipated medieval feast, and it was definitely an event worth waiting for. Bonnie Dillard set a princely table of mead, wine, smoked salmon, suckling pig, venison, turnips and tarts. We dined by candlelight, of course, and a harpist engaged by Bonnie created additional medieval ambience. Fifteen members attended, about half in costume — it was our most unique meeting (so far!) and truly a delightful evening.

Also in January, our library exhibit was on display at the Helen Kate Furness Library in Wallingford, Pa. Once again, thanks to Dick Grant for his dedication in booking libraries for us.

On February 19, Wendy Logan will address the local chapter of the Romance Writers of America on the topic of "Richard III: Fact and Fiction."

Our next meeting will be on March 27, at the home of Sally Yenkinson in Boothwyn, Pa.

Regina Jones

THE WHYTE ROSE CHAPTER (NJ/NY)

The Whyte Rose Chapter met on a snowy February 6th. This meeting marked the introduction of our new meeting format. In a brief business update, members were apprised of the AGM '93 status and on-going work on the library exhibit. At the conclusion of all business we eagerly launched into our chosen topic of discussion, *The Warwick Inheritance*.

We started with the discovery that Richard's claim was not as secure as one might think. We then ran the gamut covering such questions as "Did Richard and Anne act in collusion against George?", "How much property did George really get?" and "What was Edward IV's ulterior motive in disregarding the inheritance laws?" Our discussion ended with thoughts of fifteenth century human nature and personalities.

We look forward to our next meeting on May 8th when our topic of discussion will be about Francis Lovell.

Susan Mahoney

HELP WANTED! ADVERTISING MANAGER

The Society is currently looking for an Advertising Manager. This position would involve maintaining the current list of advertisers as well as soliciting an acceptable level of new advertisers for the *Ricardian Register*. While experience in this area is desirable, the capacity to follow through is important to this important and exciting area of the Society. If interested, please contact the Chairman at 201-525-1323 or write Joe Ann Ricca, Chairman, 106 Longview Avenue, Hackensack, NJ 07601.

NEWS FROM THE FICTION LIBRARY

Mary Miller

I want to thank Marie Martinelli for the terrific job she did as Fiction Librarian for the past several years. I hope to build on the solid foundation she has left. My first project is to computerize the fiction list. This will make it very easy to update as new material is acquired. I plan to have this completed in March. New lists will be available at that time.

Since audio/visual material is included in my bailiwick, I want to increase our sparse holdings in this area. If any members have suggestions or donations, that they want to make for cassettes, compact discs and videos, I welcome them. We have nothing in the field of medieval music, and that seems a good place to start. Please contact me before making a donation so that duplication of material can be avoided.

Donations of books are also welcome, but the same suggestion applies. Please ask if the library can use a book before you send it. If you find some books at used book sales, please make sure that they are in good condition if you want to donate them to the library. It has been an impossible dream of mine to collect all the books written about Richard III — impossible because some books are out of print and next to impossible to find and because so many new books are published each year. If you find something new at the bookstore, let me know about it so that the library can get a copy.

If you have any suggestions or requests, please write or give me a call. I am excited about the possibilities for the Fiction Library.



RAFFLE ITEMS WANTED FOR 1993 AGM

Each year, generous and talented members contribute major prizes to be raffled off as fund-raising items at the Annual General Meeting. This year's raffle funds will go to benefit the Schallek Endowment Fund — so contributing your artwork or handicraft is an excellent way to help build the endowment. Door prizes are also warmly welcomed.

If you plan to donate either a raffle item or a door prize, please contact Laura Blanchard (303 Vinc Street, Suite 106, Philadelphia, PA 19106-1143).



RICARDIAN READING

Myrna Smith

Ladies and Gentlemen, we have achieved immortality of a sort. Or at least Richard has. While listening to our "Golden Oldies" station (I must explain that our vehicle, being a Golden Oldie itself, along with its owners, refuses to run on anything else as a steady diet) we happened to catch Paul Harvey's *The Rest of the Story*. Whenever I listen, I like to see if I can guess the subject before the end (The Rest . . .), and since I possess that kind of Trivial Pursuit mind, I often can. On this occasion, back near Thanksgiving, I thought I knew who he was talking about before the third sentence, but I thought "Nah, it couldn't be." But it was, and very complementary to Richard III. Not knowing about this in advance, I was not able to tape or transcribe this broadcast, but I'm sure it will be included in a book eventually. Now for reviews of some books which are available now, though not exclusively Ricardian.

Mary, Queen of Scotland and the Isles — Margaret George, St Martin's Press, 1992

Readers who enjoyed Margaret George's first book, *The Autobiography of Henry VIII*, will savor this novel of his great-grand-niece, Mary Stuart. This is not a rollicking story like Henry's, but Mary's early life comes as a revelation to many of us.

When she was the "little queen of Scots" growing up in the French chateaux with her intended, Francois, heir to the French throne, and his vast family, she lived an idyllic life. Everyone loved her and, anxious to please, she loved everyone else. Becoming queen of Scotland at the age of six days, being crowned when she was nine months old, and sent to France at four, she continued to grow in height and popularity. Mary was already six feet tall when, at the age of 15, she married the Dauphin, who thus became the absentee King of Scots, and they had a happy life as rulers-in-waiting for France. The death of the French king brought them to the throne, and much of the everyday work of ruling lay with Mary and her powerful mother-in-law, Catherine de Medici, Francois preferring to hunt on his many estates.

Mary was widowed after only twenty-one months and returned to Scotland, where John Knox had converted many people to Protestantism. Mary remained a staunch Catholic, but accepted the diversity of religious thinking with tolerance and good grace.

The queen needed a husband, and fell madly in love with the last male of the Tudor line. Henry, Lord Darnley, was handsome, courtly, and charming, but in comparison with his great-grandfather, he made even Henry Tudor look good. Their marriage was a disaster, though it did result in the birth of James VI, who inherited the English

throne and began the royal house of Stuart in England.

Mary's subsequent marriage to Lord Bothwell and her later imprisonment for nineteen years by her cousin Elizabeth make for fascinating reading. There is much suspense in the book, and it's hard to put down once you've started. While the reader empathizes with Mary throughout the book, Ms. George has also given fine portraits of some of the powerful women of the 16th century, including Mary of Guise, mother of our Queen of Scots, Elizabeth I of England, and Catherine de Medici. The reader can feel sympathy for both Protestants and Catholics who are portrayed as equally sincere in their beliefs. Only Lord Darnley really earns our disgust and perhaps we should blame that on his love for Scotch whisky.

These 850 pages are not easy to lift, but close to impossible to put down. The book is elegant in its cover and handsome trifleur endpapers. It would grace anybody's coffee table.

Helen Cure, Southern California

The Novice's Tale — Margaret Frazier, Jove Books, New York, 1992

With this book, "a Sister Frevisse medieval mystery and the first in a new series," Ms. Frazier sets herself up for comparison with Ellis Peters (Edith Pargeter) whose creation is Brother Cadfael. Set in 1431 in St. Frideswilde's Priory, the book creates its atmosphere with historical accuracy. Much of the tale is told from the novice's point of view, but Dame Frevisse is the undoubted heroine. No meek, pious, unworldly little nun is she, doing penance for her impatience and her unwillingness to suffer fools at all, let alone gladly. She is blessed with courage, a quick intelligence, a sense of irony — usually lost on others — and a pragmatic tendency to commit small transgressions to achieve her goal. Something of a rebel, she possesses a copy of the forbidden Wycliffe Bible and rationalizes joyously that it cannot be a sin to understand what one is chanting. But she has a store of common sense, compassion, and genuine piety under her brisk exterior. An interesting creation, she should ensure the success of the series.

There is the obligatory romance but an unexpected happy ending. The people who are murdered are unworthy of grief. There is a believable red herring drawn across the path. The wrong person is almost arrested but Frevisse's "little gray cells" (to borrow from a later detective) put together some overlooked facts and justice prevails. There is also one feminist scene in which the nuns protect one of their own against armed men.

Though the word "illegitimate" is not used, the marriage of Dowager Queen Catherine and Owen Tudor is recognized as illegal, since it did not have Parliament's blessing. Thus Henry Tudor's father was not born of a lawful union. Also of interest to Ricardians is the emphasis placed on betrothals at the time, and the status of children born of a union in which one party was previously committed to another person. To say more would reveal too much of the plot.

Frazier does not attempt to create visual scenes, which is one of Peters' skills. But the plot is feasible and the action clear and stirring. Dame Frevisse should appeal strongly to Cadfael fans and in our feminist society perhaps have a wider appeal.

Dale Summers, Texas

I'm not usually enchanted with "feminist" detective stories. In their eagerness to be politically correct, they often fail to be simply correct. One such, for example, has characters "sweltering" in 60-degree weather! There are exceptions, of course. The books of Charlotte MacLeod come to mind, as well as Rita Mae and Sneaky Pie Brown's *Wish You Were Here*, or maybe I'm just a sucker for any book co-authored by a cat. In spite of its lack of feline input, I believe we can put *The Novice's Tale* in this category as well, and hope Dame Frevisse has as long and fruitful a career as Brother Cadfael...

Now for a few brief odds and ends, reviewed by your reading editor, and starting off with, fittingly, a detective story:

A Trail of Blood — Jeremy Potter, 1970 (HB), 1972 (PB)

Brother Thomas sets out, nearly 50 years after Bosworth, to discover the truth about the fate of the princes. By good detective work — and a little by good luck — he does. Potter uses a variation of the substitution caper, also the accidental death theory. As with most investigations, this one would have come to a dead end if someone — in this case Henry VII — had not made a stupid mistake. A Ricardian classic, and deservedly so.

A King of Vagabonds — Beth Ellis, 1911

The story of Perkin Warbeck, Katherine Gordon, and James Strangeways, whom Katherine later married. Though written in 1911, this novel reads as if published thirty-odd years later. Obviously influenced by Freud; though sex is not explicit, it's not overlooked, and there is some fairly strong (for the times) language. The murder of the princes takes place on stage, as it were, so we have a substitute prince, who knows he is not the true prince but does not know his true identity. Perkin is an ambitious plotter, his wife is a snob; her true love, Strangeways, is the only truly heroic character. All are treated with understanding, however, if not sympathy.

The Dragon's Breed — Godfrey Turton, Peter Davies, London, 1969

From the aboriginal Tudors to the death of Elizabeth I, this is a chatty, personality-oriented rather than political,

history. By necessity, it covers some of the later Plantagenet period, and Turton tries to be fair to all parties. "It does not follow that Henry was a monster because Richard was not." In fact the author seems to be one of those amiable souls who find it difficult to hate anybody, and he has a tendency to accept anecdotes of the ought-to-be category, which is perhaps not the best spirit in which to approach an historical debate, but makes a nice change from those bitter historians who build themselves up by putting everyone else down. I obtained my copy inexpensively from a used bookshop, but they are available in most good-sized libraries or by interlibrary loan.

The World of Columbus & Sons — Genevieve Foster, Scribners, 1969

For young people, this is a general overview of Europe, Asia, and the New World from 1450-1550; who was doing what where while someone else was doing something else somewhere else. Hundreds of text illustrations, and very sympathetic to Richard. The author has also written similar books about George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. Look for these in the children's section.

How to Become Absurdly Well-Informed About the Famous and Infamous — Ed. by E.O. Parrott, Viking, New York, 1987

A collection of biographies, potted, by biographers, likewise. Companion volume and prequel to *The Dogsboddy Papers*, also edited by Mr. Parrott, which, in accordance with Josephine Tey's obiter dictum that true history is hidden in account books and the like, gives us the last word on the fate of the princes.

Their Majesties and Other Folk — Varrel Lavere Smith, A.S. Barnes & Co., S. Brunswick & NY, 1969

"An irreverent view of British history...with some jaundiced drawings by Charles H. Anderson," proclaims the dust jacket, quite correctly. Written by a high-school teacher to make history more palatable to his students, it recognizes that what is really interesting in history is (are?) the personalities. His chapter on Richard is all a Ricardian could wish. His comment on Henry VII: "What an operator!" Light, if not always light-hearted, and factual. Not, however, easy to obtain.

Next time, I plan to defend my title as queen of Ricardian trash by reviewing a number of that ilk. I should point out that "trash" is not exactly the same as "Hall of Shame material", a fine distinction just this minute codified by me. Trashlit makes no pretensions to being anything but what it is, for example, a typical paperback bodice ripper. It is also relatively inexpensive. With cost factored in, it has to be worse to rank as a Hall-of-Shamer at \$4.95 than at \$24.95. Now that that is clear, please send contributions in either category, and if you have a good book to favor us with by way of contrast, we'll welcome that too.

A SURGE IN SCHALLEK GIVING

Laura Blanchard

Last December, Regina Jones and Sally Yenkinson of the Southeastern Pennsylvania chapter, along with some family volunteers, joined me in folding, stuffing, sealing and stamping Joe Ann Ricca's letter to the members announcing the Schallek Matching Gift program. This fund-raising program, as you know, is intended to help build the endowment for the American Branch's annual graduate scholarship to a student exploring some aspect of fifteenth-century history and culture.

As outlined in Joe Ann's letter, and in the last issue of the *Ricardian Register*, the Executive Board is matching any new or increased contributions for the current Ricardian year from the General Fund.

The response, so far, has been encouraging: more than 40 Ricardians have responded with \$1,800 in gifts and pledges for the year. Of these, about \$1,200 are eligible for matching funds, bringing the total to date to \$3,000. With the contribution of another \$7,000, we'll have achieved our goal of an endowment fund that will support an annual \$1,000 scholarship from interest income. To put this into another context, if every member of the American branch contributed just \$10, we'd make our goal.

Many thanks to those of you who've contributed this year so far — and to those of you who are planning to contribute in the near future. Together, I'm sure we'll make our goal well ahead of time. (Send your contributions to Tedd Trimboth, Treasurer, 5683 Cobblegate Drive, Dayton, OH 45449.)

Schallek Applications Up

Over the past two years we've worked hard at building a publicity list for the Schallek Awards program. This list, which includes the leading medieval studies centers here and in England as well as appropriate academic journals, allows us to publicize the award program without spending money on paid advertising.

This year, we're seeing some real payback on our list-building efforts. I've sent out more than 40 Schallek applications to date. With two weeks to go before the deadline, I've received transcripts, applications, and letters of recommendation for seven candidates. Of course, I do the administrative work on this project and not the academic judging, but it looks to me as though we can expect next year's Schallek Scholar to be an outstanding student doing worthwhile research at a well-respected institution.

Who Are Our Schallek Scholars?

One of my projects since assuming the administrative chair of the Schallek Committee has been assembling a roster of Schallek Scholars since the program's inception.

We can take pride in the accomplishments of the scholars whose work we've supported in our modest way. Since 1980, we've awarded scholarships to fifteen students. At least five of these scholars, or 33%, currently hold academic appointments. Since I've not yet been able to reach all our Schallek Scholars, that percentage may be even higher. We've supported a diversity of research interests, resulting in printed articles and presented papers.

My files are missing information on 1982 and 1983; I'd be grateful if any long-time members can help me identify any additional Schallek Scholars for those years.

This issue of *The Ricardian Register* contains a profile of our first Schallek Scholar, Lorraine C. Attreed, and a brief article from our current Schallek Scholar, Ann Bliss. Here is a listing of our Schallek Scholars since 1980:

1980

Lorraine C. Attreed, Harvard University. Research supported by the Schallek Award was incorporated into two subsequent publications: "Medieval Bureaucracy in Fifteenth-Century York," *York Historian*, 6 (1985), 24-31; and "The King's Interest — York's Fee Farm and the Central Government, 1480-1492," *Northern History*, 17 (1981), 24-43. She is also the editor of *York House Books 1461-1490*, (Alan Sutton, 1990). Dr. Attreed is currently an associate professor at the College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA.

John Rainey, Jr., Rutgers University, for research on the Calais garrison in the fifteenth century.

Kathleen Kleske, independent scholar, for research on Edward IV's relationship with the clergy.

1981

Pamela Garrett, Berkeley. Garrett delivered the keynote address, "Richard III: The Crown Within," at the 1986 Annual General Meeting.

Lorraine C. Attreed, Harvard. Research and travel resulting in the presentation of a paper at the 1981 Richard III Society conference. The paper was published in *The Ricardian* in abridged form and later appeared as "From Pearl Maiden to Tower Princes: Towards a New History of Medieval Childhood," *Journal of Medieval History*, 9 (1983), 43-58.

John Rainey, Jr., Rutgers University. See 1980 listing.

1986

John J. Butt, Rutgers University, for research on brewers in London, Norwich, Coventry. Dr. Butt is now assistant professor of early modern European history at James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA 22807.

Robin L. Dorfman, Centre for Medieval Studies, University of York. See 1985 listing.

1987

1982

Shirley Grubb, University of Colorado, Boulder, for research on rhetorical and dramatic characterizations in Richard III.

John J. Butt, Rutgers University. See 1981 listing.

Thomas S. Freeman, Rutgers, for research on Polydore Vergil's *Anglica Historia*. This included, according to an informed source, some ideas on just how Vergil constructed his history, including a look at "the classical works he was cribbing."

1984

1988

Katherine J. Workman, Indiana University. Research supported by the Schallek Award has been incorporated into her Ph.D. dissertation, "Estate Administration in Fifteenth-Century Norfolk: An Occupational Study," and in several papers delivered at the Congress on Medieval Studies at Kalamazoo and at meetings of the Social Science History Association. Her work explores new opportunities for peasants in the century and a half after the Black Death, enriching our understanding of the world in which Richard III lived. She is presently preparing several of these works for publication and plans to produce a book as well. Dr. Workman is now Assistant Professor of History, Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio.

Gary G. Gibbs, University of Virginia/Charlottesville, for research to complete dissertation, "Parish Finance and the Urban Community in London, 1450-1620." This research was incorporated into a conference paper, "Transience and Stability in the Neighborhoods of Tudor London," presented at the Sixteenth-Century Studies Conference, Philadelphia, PA, October, 1991. Dr. Gibbs is now Assistant Professor at Roanoke College, Salem, Virginia.

1985

1989

Shelley A. Sinclair, for "Earls of Oxford — Politics, Economics, and Treason Against Edward IV and Richard III. Dr. Sinclair is now on staff at the Department of History, University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse; LaCrosse, WI 54601. She will be presenting a paper on "John Benet's Chronicle and the Treason Conspiracy of 1462" at the Richard III Society-sponsored session of the International Medieval Congress, May 1993.

Katherine Kamerick, University of Iowa, to support her Ph.D. dissertation, "Holy Images: Theology, Belief and Practice in Late Medieval England."

Beverly Dougherty, Fordham University, to support her Ph.D. dissertation, "The Statutes of the Yorkist Period (1461-1485): Their Significance and Impact on the Development of the State."

1991

Steven Halasey, "Wycliffe Bible: Effect of the Work on Lay Religiosity in the 15th Century, Including Richard's Rule in York and His Reign."

Helen Maurer, University of California, toward doctoral studies. Maurer's two-part study on the Bones in the Tower was printed in *The Ricardian*, is cited by leading scholars in the field, and was the subject of her 1989 presentation at the International Medieval Congress in Kalamazoo.

Robin L. Dorfman, Harvard, "Cultural Trends of the City of York." As a student of Dr. Attreed at Harvard, Dorfman received an honors degree in history for her B.A. thesis on Richard Duke of York. She attended the Medieval Studies Program for an M.A. at the University of York, studying the effects of the Lancastrian usurpation on the Dean and Chapter of York Minster. She has since moved into the realm of writing scripts for television.

1992

Ann Bliss, University of North Carolina/Chapel Hill, to support work on her Ph.D. dissertation, an analysis of the use of ceremony in Malory's *Morte Darthur*, including the impact of late fifteenth-century political and social trends on this work.

WANTED!

Please share with our readers your experiences in travel, reading, or scholarship.
The Register needs informative articles from our members!

CONCORD IN CHAOS

Anne Elaine Bliss

Sir Thomas Malory's *Morte Darthur*, completed around 1469, is the best-known English version of the Arthurian story. Ann Elaine Bliss' dissertation, "Ceremony in Malory's *Morte Darthur*: Fifteenth-Century Influences," investigates how ceremony and solemn formality function to create an impression of unity in the world of the *Morte Darthur*, much as they did in the divided England of the fifteenth century. The language Malory uses when describing ceremonious events, in fact, echoes accounts of ceremonies found in fifteenth-century chronicles and letters more closely than it echoes the language found in his romance sources. Malory's aristocratic readers would have recognized the formal language of ceremony in descriptions of ceremonies and other formal events such as royal entries, processions, weddings, tournaments, feasts and funerals.

This study of ceremony is particularly important because of the way Malory's text reflects the historical period in which he was writing. During the Wars of the Roses in fifteenth-century England, ceremony functioned to keep up the appearance of unity and cohesion. Processions and ceremonious displays were designed to demonstrate power and to create an appearance of stability and continuity to counter the political divisions and turmoil caused by the Lancastrian/Yorkist kingship changes. Similarly, in the *Morte Darthur* ceremony holds Arthur's court together and provides the appearance of stability, in spite of internal divisions. Outward courtesy and formal deference hide the fact that underneath the surface all is not well, that disloyalty, deception and treachery exist among Arthur's fellowship. The adulterous relationship between Arthur's queen Guinevere and his beloved best knight Lancelot eventually results in a devastating feud between the family of Arthur's nephew, Gawain, and the French knight Lancelot and his kin. This feud brings about the downfall of the realm when Gawain convinces Arthur to go to France to make war on Lancelot; when Arthur leaves Mordred in charge of England in his absence, Mordred starts a rebellion which results in a civil war and the deaths of Arthur and most of his noble knights.

Caxton printed the *Morte Darthur* in 1485, the last year of Richard III's reign. A shrewd businessman, Caxton was well aware of the political climate and chose works to publish that would interest his reading public, all too familiar with political turmoil. Passages such as Malory's description of Mordred's rebellion while Arthur was in France would have resonated for Malory's fifteenth-century readers:

sir Mordred made wryttes unto all the baronny of thys londe. And much people drew unto hym; for than was the comyn voyce amonge them that with kynge Arthur

was never othir lyff but warre and stryff, and with sir Mordrede was grete joy and blysse. Thus was kynge Arthur depraved, and evyll seyde off; and many there were that kynge Arthur had brought up of nought, and gyffyn them londis, that myght nat than say hym a good worde.¹

In the middle of the narration, Malory breaks in with what must surely have been a heart-felt lament:

Lo ye all Englysbemen, se ye nat what a myschyff here was? For he that was the moste kynge and nobelyst knyght of the world, and moste loved the felysthypp of noble knyghtes, and by hym they all were upholdyn, and yet myght nat thes Englysbemen holde them contente with hym. Lo thus was the olde custom and usayges of thys londe, and men say that we of thys londe have nat yet loste that custom. Alas! thys ys a grete defaughte of us Englysbemen, for there may no thyng us please no terme . . . And the moste party of all Inglande hylde wyth sir Mordred, for the people were so new-fangill.²

As a knight personally involved in the Wars of the Roses, Malory was well aware of the destructiveness of factionalism, and this theme is reflected in his treatment of the Arthurian story. Malory adds phrases which explicitly state the importance of loyalty: "And he that was curteyse, trew, and faythefull to hys frynde was that tyme cheryssed."³ Throughout the *Morte Darthur*, Malory describes his noble knights in terms of attributes such as honor, loyalty and truth—important values in a world of changing allegiances. The *Morte Darthur* clearly reflects the tensions of the historical context in which it was written.

NOTES:

1. Sir Thomas Malory. *Works*, ed. Eugene Vinaver, 3rd ed., revised by P. J. C. Field, 3 vols. (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1990), 3: 1228-9.
2. *Ibid.*, 3: 1229.
3. *Ibid.*, 3: 1114.

About the Author:

Our 1992 Schallek Scholar, Ann Elaine Bliss, is completing work on her Ph.D. at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Asked if she would share a summary of her work with the readers of the Ricardian Register, she submitted the above.

BOARD CHRONICLES

November 8, 1992

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Joe Ann Ricca at 3:55 P.M. Eastern Standard Time.

Present: Joe Ann Ricca, Chairman; Roxane Murph, Immediate Past Chairman; Ellen Ekstrom Fernandez, Vice-Chairman; Tedd Trimboth, Treasurer; Carole Rike, Membership Chairman; Toni Collins, Secretary

The Board welcomed new Treasurer Tedd Trimboth with thanks for his willingness to serve.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as corrected. (Librarians should be insured, not bonded).

Treasurer (Tedd Trimboth)

Tedd reported that funds at September 30, 1992 are \$46,485.71 less outstanding liabilities of \$15,037.81, leaving a cash balance of \$41,174.76, which includes \$15,037.81 for the Schallek account.

Tedd asked and was told that we have no outstanding tax issues.

Payment to England in Sterling was approved by the Board.

As Treasurer, Tedd has agreed to deal with all insurance and bonding issues.

Membership (Carole Rike)

Carole had no report as she is in the middle of posting dues and renewals are still coming in daily.

Old Business

Publications (Roxane Murph)

Roxane reported that she has had approximately 40 responses requesting pre-publication of *Under the Hog*. She is proceeding with work on "Richard and Anne."

Bylaw Review

The Board has asked Ellen to take over the daunting task of reviewing and updating the Bylaws and Policy decisions. Toni will outline the task in a separate letter, and compile minutes for policy review.

AGM Reports (Joe Ann Ricca)

1993 - Plans progressing on schedule. Beginning in January, 1993, the 1993 AGM Committee of the New Jersey Chapter will be meeting every other month.

1994 - Contact has been made with the Marriot in Dearborn, Michigan. Rates look very affordable (\$89.00 for a single or double room).

1995 - There is currently no site established for the 1995 AGM.

Medieval Congress (Roxane Murph)

Compton Reeves has already made arrangements for next year's Congress.

Scholarship (Joe Ann Ricca)

Schallek Scholarship Chairman Laura Blanchard has requested that the Board support a \$5,000 challenge grant to benefit the scholarship fund. The following motion was passed by the Board:

The Board will approve the challenge grant as proposed by Laura Blanchard in her memo of 10/26/92 for one year for a total not to exceed \$5,000, for new and increased contributions. The Treasurer will report to the Board on the issue on an individual basis, and will be the recipient of all checks.

Joe Ann also announced that Dr. Shelly Sinclair has agreed to serve on the Schallek committee and Committee Chair Laura Blanchard and the Board have approved the appointment.

New Business

Educational Module - Tabled

Fund-raising - Tabled

Membership Survey - Tabled

Ricardian Tour for 1993 (Joe Ann Ricca)

Joe Ann reported that she is accepting proposals from tour agencies and is interested in putting the Ricardian Tour out for bid. One must be a Ricardian presence at Bosworth.

The Board approved a motion for Joe Ann to fill a newly defined Tour Director position.

The Board has approved the following definition of the Tour Director position:

The Tour director will be the contact for members who seek information on Society sponsored tours. The Tour Director solicits tour proposals from various sources and presents them to the Board for approval.

The Tour Director is directed by the Board to ensure that American Branch members (who have enrolled in a tour at the appropriate time) are present at Bosworth Field for the re-enactment of the Battle of Redmore Plain.

Dates of Meetings

The Board has decided that their meetings will now be held on the second Sunday of alternate months, rather than the first Sunday.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Toni E. Collins, Secretary

UNDER THE HOG

Many Ricardians consider Patrick Carleton's 1937 novel of Richard to be one of the best reads on the subject. Covering Richard's adult life — from the Battle of Barnet in 1470 to his death at the Battle of Bosworth in 1485 — Carleton portrays Richard as a sympathetic character, although certainly not as a saint.

Richard is seen as a man with a strict code of honor and with unswerving loyalty to his brother Edward. He seizes the throne to make England a better realm by reforming the government and enacting good laws. At times, he is forced to use cruelty to achieve his goals; only too late does he realize "it is folly to be unjust for the sake of justice."

This book has long been out of print. Now the American Branch of the Society hopes to make *Under the Hog* available to all by issuing a facsimile reprint.

Assuming sufficient interest, the Society will reprint *Under the Hog* in hardcover at an estimated price of \$19.95, plus \$2.00 shipping.

Send no money now! We are simply attempting to obtain sufficient orders to allow us to proceed with this printing.

Please send the form below to the sales officer to indicate your interest!

Mail to:
Linda McLatchie, Sales Officer
Richard III Society
330 Cedar Street
Ashland, MA 01721

Yes! I am interested in buying ____ copies of Patrick Carleton's *Under the Hog* (anticipated price \$19.95 plus \$2.00 shipping).

Name

Address

City, State & Zip

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

SOCIETY RESEARCH OFFICER

A member of the Richard III Society since 1979, Margaret Gurowitz has a longstanding interest in medieval England. She did her undergraduate work in history at Douglass College, where she received a certificate in interdisciplinary medieval studies as well as various academic awards. She earned her masters degree in medieval history from Rutgers University, and has studied French and both classical and medieval Latin.

Ms. Gurowitz is a member of Phi Alpha Theta, the international history honor society. One of her main areas of interest is the development of royal government in the medieval period, especially as it relates to England and France.

Ms. Gurowitz works in the public relations field for a large health care company.

She resides in Edison, New Jersey, with her husband and her cat, and is an avid hockey fan.

FROM THE RESEARCH OFFICER

Margaret Gurowitz

As the new Research Officer for the American Branch of the Richard III Society, I would like to introduce myself and outline some of the things I will be doing.

My first project will be a written handbook on research. It will outline the procedure for launching an historical investigation using secondary sources such as biographies, histories and journal articles, as well as contemporary sources such as chronicles, letters financial records and more. The guide will contain sections on evaluating the reliability of materials, the importance of footnotes and documentation, and the need for accuracy on even the most basic level. I hope this handbook will make historical research less intimidating.

Second, I plan to assemble a general syllabus of fifteenth century reading, to provide some general background in Richard III's era. Along with this, I want to do a syllabus covering Richard III's life and career; this would encompass specifically Ricardian topics. These syllabuses would be updated periodically when new materials are published.

Finally, I want to work with Society members on their research questions. I will be happy to assist people in formulating research topics, recommending reading materials and finding sources for locating books. Mary Donnermeyer and I will answer members' questions by letter; we hope to publish some of these in a research query column in the *Register*. Society members with research questions should feel free to write to me or give me a call at (908) 248-0228.

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GAMES RICARDIANS PLAY

Jane Winther

This fun 1993 AGM workshop, conducted by gifted and talented teacher, Anne Vineyard (who is both!) was enlivened by our leader's sense of humor and spirited presentation. The participants agreed that the early hour may have slowed us down a bit talentwise, but we got into the games and picked up steam as the workshop progressed.

Among the games played were:

RUFFLED FLOURISHES

(Choose a theme song for each person listed with artist/composer)

JUST PUT IT ON MY PLATE

(Design a "Vanity" license plate for persons listed — 6 letters and/or numerals only)

WE HEREBY RESOLVE

(Make a resolution for Ricardian persona listed since they no longer can)

I wish space permitted giving some of the answers most of which had us in stitches! If you have the opportunity to attend this workshop in the future, don't miss it. You'll find out how really clever you — and Anne — are!

IDEAS & ART CONTEST!

Help the Society design our 1993 Christmas Cards, which will be sold by the Sales Officer. If you have suitable artwork or ideas, please submit to Carole Rike or Linda McLatchie. Winner gets something — glory, if nothing else!

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